U.S.S.N. 09/467,818          2          199-0680 (FGT 1797PUS)

## REMARKS

In the Final Office Action claims 1-2, and 4-20 stand rejected. Note that claims 1, 11, and 17 are independent claims from which all other claims depend therefrom.

Claims 1, 2, and 4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ramakesavan (US 6,184,781) and Henley (US 5,657,073), and further in view of Akinori (JP 10175482).

Claim 1 recites a vehicle data acquisition and display assembly that includes two or more image acquisition apparatuses. The image apparatuses are disposed upon a vehicle and acquire images of an environment in which the vehicle resides. A video processing assembly receives the acquired images and in response thereto creates a mosaic image of the environment. A display is disposed within the vehicle and displays at least a portion of the mosaic. An image control assembly selects a first portion of the mosaic to be displayed. The data acquisition and display assembly monitors one or more attributes of the vehicle and in response to the attributes displays a second portion of the mosaic.

Note that in the limitations of claim 1 multiple images are combined to create a mosaic of the environment. Also, that the image control assembly selects a first portion of the mosaic to be displayed and displays a second portion of the mosaic in response to one or more attributes of the vehicle.

In the Response of January 5, 2004, the applicants agreed with the Examiner in that Ramakesavan does not specifically teach selectively displaying a portion of an image. Applicants also agreed that neither Ramakesavan nor Henley specifically teach causing a second portion of a mosaic to be displayed. The Office Actions rely on Akinori for such teachings.

U.S.S.N. 09/467,818                  3                  199-0680 (FGT 1797PUS)

The Office Action of October 3, 2003 states that Akinori discloses causing a second portion of a mosaic to be displayed in response to a vehicle attribute. Applicants have respectfully traversed.

In the Final Office Action the Examiner indicates that generation of a mosaic image through the acquisition and combination of multiple images has been disclosed by Ramakesavan. Applicants agree that Ramakesavan discloses the stitching of multiple image frames of a scene together to form a composite image. However, in stiching multiple image frames of a scene together to form a composite image, Ramakesavan does not disclose displaying a portion of an image nor can such disclosure be inferred, besides it has been agreed that such disclosure is not provided in Ramakesavan.

The Final Office Action further states that Akinori generates mosaic images (synthesized backward supervisory picture image) and refers to the abstract and to Figure 8 in which images w1 and w2 are shown for such disclosure. The Final Office Action states that the second portion of mosaic image (image w1) is displayed in response to a vehicle attribute (rear wheel moving locus). Applicants, respectfully, traverse.

Akinori does not teach or suggest the generation of a mosaic image. In other words, Akinori does not combine multiple images to create a composite or mosaic image. In the abstract, Akinori synthesizes or combines linear data, which may be in the form of an image, with a backward supervisory picture image. The linear data is a projection of the movement of the rear wheels of a host vehicle. The linear data is combined with a picture image of the rearward environment of the vehicle to display projected vehicle movement in relation to a rearward scene. Picture images w1 and w2 of Akinori are not combined, but rather are generated separately in response to steering angle.

Akinori also does not teach or suggest the generation of a mosaic image of an environment. The linear data of Akinori does not refer to data of an environment, but rather is a projection of the movement of the rear wheels of the host vehicle. The linear data in actuality is in the form of a plot, which is overlaid on an image.

The picture images w1 and w2 of Akinori are selected separately and combined with the above-described linear data to display projected vehicle data in relation to one of the picture images w1 and w2. As stated in the previous Responses, Akinori uses a single camera to monitor a single view to acquire a single image. Akinori does not select portions of an image or portions of a mosaic. Akinori adjusts directed position or angle of a camera to view a different area exterior to the host vehicle as is shown by images w1 and w2. This is clearly different than selecting different portions of an image or mosaic. In other words, Akinori simply adjusts directed angle of a camera and combines the appropriate linear data with the corresponding picture image in response to steering angle.

Referring to MPEP 2143, to establish a prima facie case of obviousness the prior art must teach or suggest all the claimed limitations. Thus, since none of the prior art references teach or suggest selectively displaying portions of a mosaic image, claim 1 is nonobvious, novel, and is in a condition for allowance. Note also that none of the references teach or suggest the combination of selectively displaying portions of a mosaic image and displaying those portions in response to vehicle attributes.

The Final Office Action states that the references are all within the same field of endeavor and directed to moving vehicles data acquisition and display, and consequently combinable. Referring to MPEP 2143.01, the fact that references can be combined or modified is not sufficient to establish *prima facie* obviousness. The mere fact that references can be combined or modified does not render the resultant combination obvious unless the prior art also suggests

U.S.S.N. 09/467,818                    5                    199-0680 (FGT 1797PUS)

the desirability of the combination, *In re Mills*, 916 F.2d 680, 16 USPQ2d 1430 (Fed. Cir. 1990). Also although a prior art device may be capable of being modified to run the way the apparatus is claimed, there must be a suggestion or motivation in the reference to do so, 916 F.2d at 682, 16 USPQ2d at 1432. Applicants submit that no such motivation or suggestion to combine and modify the stated references, as is necessary to arrive at the claimed invention, is provided in Ramakesavan, Henley, or Akinori.

In simply stating that the references are in the same field of endeavor and directed to moving vehicles data acquisition and display, one does not provide any objective reason to combine the references nor is any suggestion provided to modify the stated references. Ramakesavan and Akinori are directed towards rear looking vision systems of a vehicle, which provide an image of an area rearward of a vehicle, whereas, Henley is generally directed towards an imaging system for acquiring panoramic views. Henley is not directed towards a moving vehicle data acquisition and display system. The imaging systems of Ramakesavan and Akinori do not provide panoramic views or suggest the generation of a panoramic view and the imaging system of Henley is not directed towards a vehicle application nor is there any suggestion thereof. Notice that Ramakesavan and Henley are not within the same U.S. subclass, but rather are simply under the broad classification of television.

Claims 11-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ramakesavan, Henley, and Akinori as applied to claim 1 and further in view of Schofield et al. (US 5,949,331) and Wright et al. (US 6,161,066).

As established above with regards to claim 1, Ramakesavan, Henley, and Akinori fail to teach or suggest displaying a second portion of a mosaic in response to a vehicle attribute.

Schofield is directed towards display enhancements for a vehicle vision system and Wright is directed towards an emergency response system. As with Ramakesavan, Henley, and Akinori, nowhere in Schofield or Wright is selecting a second portion of a mosaic in response to a vehicle attribute disclosed, taught, or suggested. The Office Actions again rely on Akinori for such teachings, which as stated above clearly fails to provide such teachings. Thus, claim 11 is also novel, nonobvious, and is in a condition for allowance.

Claims 17 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ramakesavan, Henley, and Akinori as applied to claim 1 above and further in view of Okude et al. (US 6,157,342).

Again the Office Actions rely on Akinori for the teaching of selectively displaying portions of a mosaic, which Applicants, respectfully, submit is clearly not the case. Applicants have shown in the previous Responses that Okude also does not teach or suggest selecting portions of multiple images and selecting those portions in response to a voice command. Thus, claim 17 is also novel, nonobvious, and is in a condition for allowance.

Ramakesavan, Henley, Akinori, Schofield, Wright, and Okude alone or in combination do not teach or suggest displaying portions of images or of a mosaic, monitoring a vehicle attribute, and displaying a second portion of the images or mosaic in response to the vehicle attribute. Also, Ramakesavan, Henley, Akinori, Schofield, Wright, and Okude alone or in combination do not teach or suggest the limitation of generating a voice command and using the voice command to select portions of the images. In addition, since the objections and rejections with regards to claims 1, 11, and 17 have been overcome and since claims 2, 4-10, 12-16, and 18-20 depend from claims 1, 11, and 17, respectively, they are also novel and nonobvious for at least the same reasons.

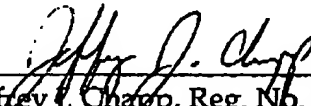U.S.S.N. 09/467,818                    7                 199-0680 (FGT 1797PUS)

In light of the remarks, the Applicants submit that all objections and rejections are now overcome. The application is now in condition for allowance and expeditious notice thereof is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, he is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

ARTZ & ARTZ P.C.

Jeffrey J. Chapp, Reg. No. 50,579
28333 Telegraph Road, Suite 250
Southfield, MI 48034
(248) 223-9500

Dated: May 19, 2004